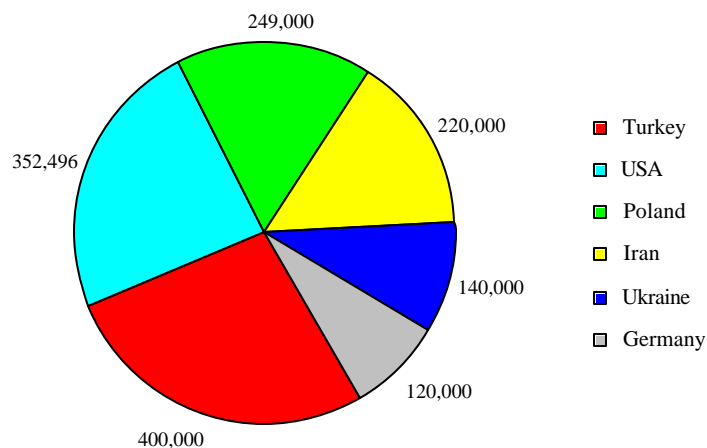


## Stone Fruit Situation and Outlook in Selected Countries

Global exports of fresh stone fruit (cherries, peaches and nectarines, plums and prunes, and apricots) totaled more than \$1 billion in 2004 (not including EU intra-trade), up 8 percent from the previous year. The largest exporters of the stone fruit category are the United States, Chile, the European Union (EU25), Turkey, South Africa, and Australia. In value terms, fresh cherry exports led the stone fruit category, totaling \$393 million, followed by peaches and nectarines at \$353 million, plums at \$212 million, and apricots at \$48 million.

### Fresh Cherries

Major Producers of Fresh Cherries in 2004  
(Metric Tons)



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the U.N. and USDA Foreign Agricultural Service Attaché Reports

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) indicates that the top producers of fresh cherries are typically Turkey, Iran, and the United States. However, the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) maintains a production, supply, and distribution database for selected countries only. Production of cherries for selected major producers monitored by FAS (Australia, Chile, China, Japan, Poland, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey, and the United States) totaled 1.2 million metric tons in 2004, an increase of 8 percent from 2003.

Production among the selected countries is forecast to reach 1.23 million tons for 2005. Turkey is the leading global producer of cherries. In 2004, its production totaled 400,000 tons, up 14 percent from the previous year.

The United States is typically the second-largest cherry producer in the world. In 2004, production totaled 352,496 tons. Production for 2005 is expected to fall to 316,290 tons in the United States, mainly due to inclement weather that affected many sweet cherry production areas this season. For more detailed information on U.S. cherry production, see the latest USDA-NASS Cherry Production report at: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/fruit/zcp-bb/>.

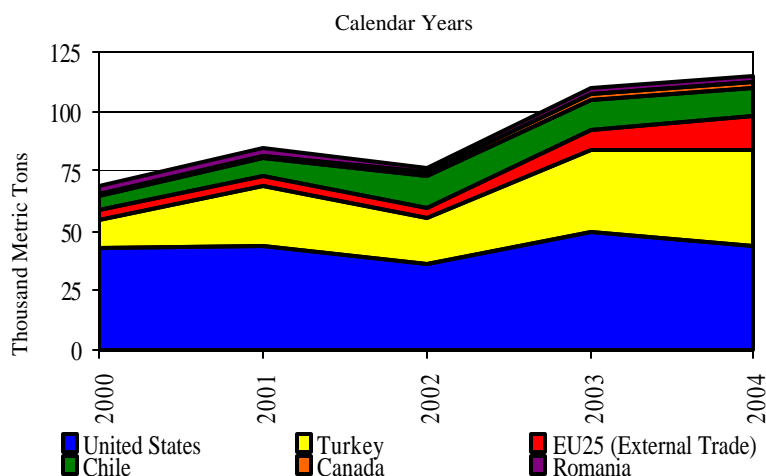
In 2004, global exports of fresh cherries totaled \$393 million.<sup>1</sup> The top exporters in value terms were: the United States (\$186 million); Turkey (\$118 million); Chile (\$32 million); and the EU25 (\$16 million). The top global importers were: the EU25 (\$195 million); Japan (\$97

<sup>1</sup> Based on data from Global Trade Atlas, Inc.

million); Canada (\$45 million); Taiwan (\$44 million); Hong Kong (\$22 million); and the United States (\$16 million).

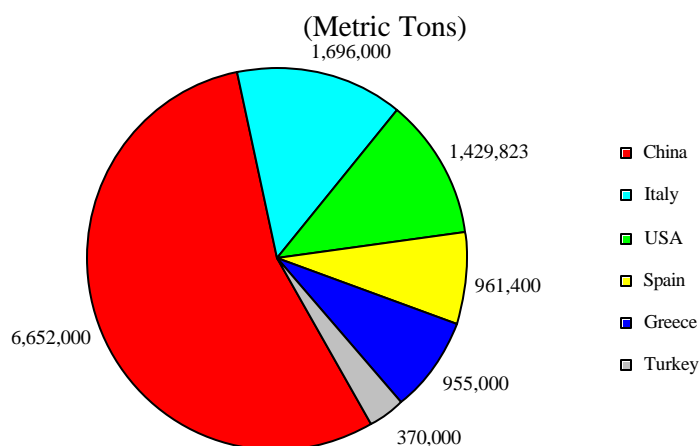
The leading markets for U.S. fresh cherry exports are typically Japan, Canada, and Taiwan. Exports to Japan in 2004 totaled \$82.5 million, while exports to Canada were \$43.8 million and Taiwan at \$19.5 million. Total U.S. exports in 2004 were valued at more than \$186 million, 3 percent higher than the previous year. Consumption of cherries in the major U.S. markets is expected to rise in the coming year due to good demand. Japan typically consumes around 29,300 tons of sweet cherries annually. Consumption is expected to increase to 33,000 tons for 2005. Canada consumed nearly 17,000 tons in 2004 and is expected to increase its usage to 18,500 for 2005. Consumption in Taiwan is expected to reach 14,000 tons in 2005, up from less than 10,000 in 2003.

## Major Exporters of Fresh Cherries



## Fresh Peaches and Nectarines

### Major Producers of Peaches and Nectarines in 2004



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the U.N. and USDA Foreign Agricultural Service Attaché Reports

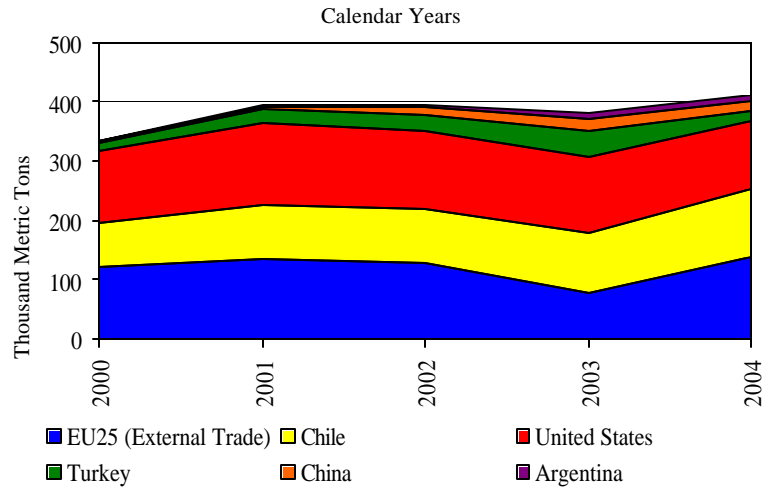
The FAO indicates that the top producers of peaches and nectarines are typically China, Italy, and the United States. However, production of peaches and nectarines for selected major producers monitored by FAS (Australia, Chile, China, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey, and the United States) totaled 11.8 million tons in 2004, an increase of 2 percent from the previous year. Production for 2005 is forecast at 11.9 million tons. China is the leading producer of peaches and nectarines, supplying more than all other major selected producers combined. Output

reached 6.65 million tons in 2004 and is expected to increase by 4 percent for 2005. Italy is typically the second-largest producer, supplying 1.7 million tons in 2004.

In 2004, U.S. production of peaches and nectarines totaled 1.4 million tons, a 3-percent increase over the previous year. Production of peaches and nectarines is forecast at 1.3 million tons for 2005, due mainly to an expected smaller peach crop. However, nectarine production is

expected to be 4 percent higher than last year's level. More detailed information about peach and nectarine crop progress is available in the USDA Economic Research Service's Fruit and Tree Nuts Outlook: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fts/mar05/FTS315.pdf>

## Major Exporters of Peaches and Nectarines



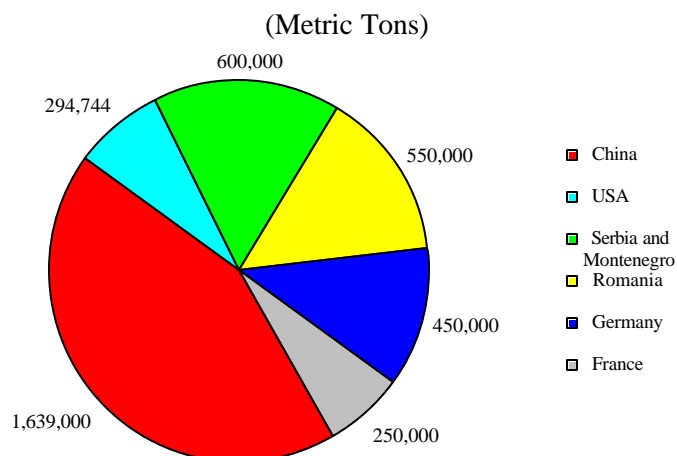
Global exports of fresh peaches and nectarines totaled more than \$350 million in 2004 (not including EU intra-trade).<sup>2</sup> The top world suppliers in value terms were: the EU25 (\$103 million); the United States (\$100 million); Chile (\$86 million); and Australia (\$13 million). The top global importers were: Canada (\$63 million); the United States (\$60 million); EU25 (\$51 million); Russia (\$46 million); and Taiwan (\$42 million).

The leading export markets for U.S. peaches and nectarines are typically Canada, Taiwan, and Mexico. In 2004, exports totaled \$57.5 million, \$25.6 million, and \$10.5 million, respectively. Consumption in Canada has been around 80,000 tons in recent years. It is expected to reach 79,370 tons in 2005. Taiwan's consumption of peaches and nectarines has increased slightly over the past few years and is expected to reach 75,000 tons in 2005. Mexico has also seen increases in peach and nectarine consumption over the past few years. In 2005, consumption is expected to reach 230,400 tons.

<sup>2</sup> Based on data from Global Trade Atlas, Inc.

## Fresh Plums and Prunes

### Major Producers of Fresh Plums and Prunes in 2004



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the U.N. and USDA Foreign Agricultural Service Attaché Reports

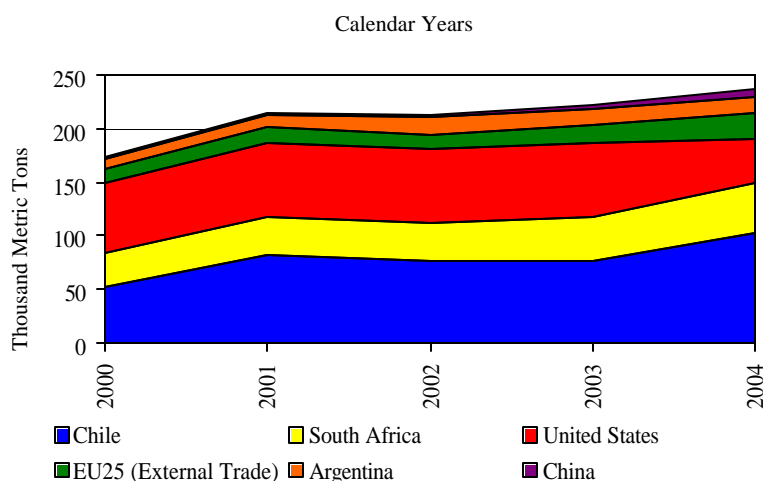
According to FAO, the leading producers of fresh plums and prunes are typically China, the United States, and Serbia and Montenegro. However, production for selected major producers monitored by FAS (Australia, Chile, China, Poland, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey, and the United States) totaled 2.6 million tons in 2004, down 7 percent from the previous year. China, the largest producer of fresh plums and prunes, typically produces 60 percent of the total among those selected major producers. In 2004, output in China was 1.64 million tons. Production is forecast to reach 1.66 million tons in 2005. The United States is the second-largest producer and supplied

294,744 tons in 2004, down more than 50 percent from the previous year due to unfavorable weather during the bloom period that caused flowers to drop from the trees. The 2005 production estimate for California prunes for drying is set at 315,000 tons. The production estimate for plums and prunes for the four states of Idaho, Michigan, Oregon, and Washington, will be available in the August edition of the USDA-NASS Crop Production report located at: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/field/pcp-bb/>.

Global exports of fresh plums and prunes totaled more than \$212 million in 2004, a 2-percent increase over the 2003 level.<sup>3</sup>

The top exporters in value terms were: Chile (\$77 million); the United States (\$40 million); South Africa (\$39 million); the EU25 (\$19 million); and Australia (\$10 million). The leading importers were: the EU25 (\$126 million); the United States (\$31 million); Canada (\$29 million); Russia (\$27 million); Hong Kong (\$24 million); and Mexico (\$11 million).

### Major Exporters of Fresh Plums and Prunes

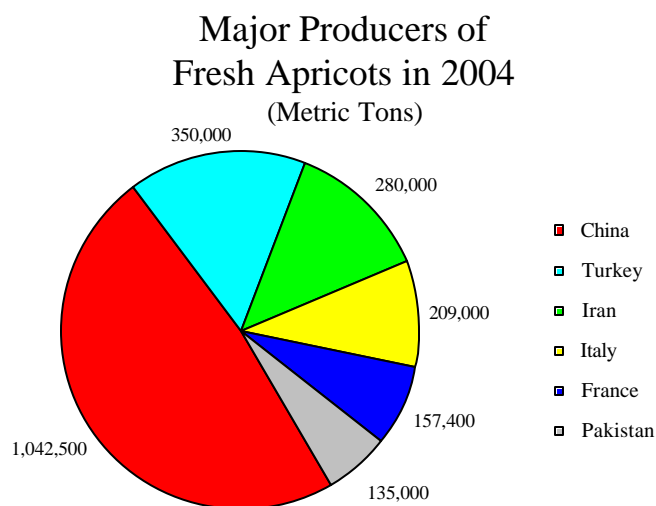


Source: Global Trade Atlas

<sup>3</sup> Based on data from Global Trade Atlas, Inc.

The top destination for U.S. exports is Canada, which typically consumes around 40 percent of total value exported, followed by Taiwan, Mexico, and Hong Kong. In 2004, exports to these four countries totaled \$22 million, \$4.4 million, \$3.3 million, and \$2.8 million, respectively. Consumption in those countries is expected to increase slightly in the next year. Canada's consumption of plums and prunes is forecast to reach nearly 29,000 tons in 2005, up from almost 28,000 tons last year. Taiwan's consumption is also expected to reach 17,600 tons in 2005, up from 15,000 in 2003. Consumption in Mexico is also expected to rise slightly due to increasing demand.

## Fresh Apricots



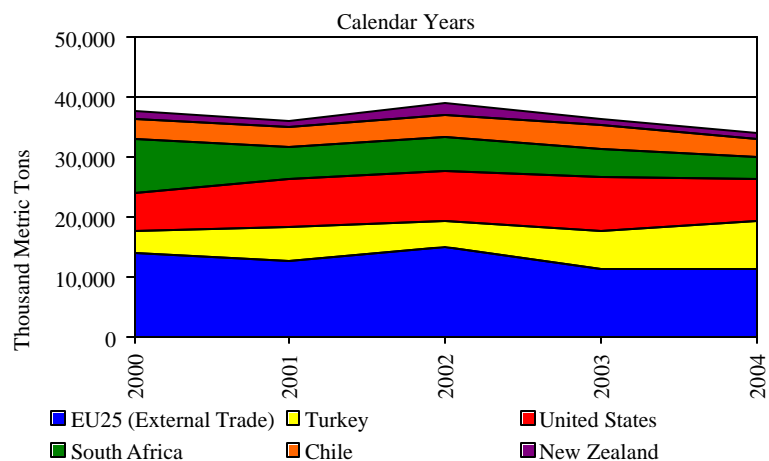
Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the U.N. and USDA Foreign Agricultural Service Attaché Reports

China's production for 2005 to increase by 2 percent over the 2004 level.

Global exports of fresh apricots totaled more than \$48 million in 2004. The top suppliers, in value terms, were the EU25 (\$17 million); Turkey (\$10 million); the United States (\$8 million); South Africa (\$4 million); New Zealand (\$4 million); and Chile (\$3 million). The top importers were: the EU25 (\$21 million); Russia (\$16 million); Switzerland (\$12 million); Canada (\$6 million); the

According to FAO data, the leading producers of fresh apricots are typically Turkey, Iran, and Italy. However, production of fresh apricots for selected major producers that FAS monitors (Australia, Chile, China, Poland, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey, and the United States) totaled 1.63 million tons in 2004, a 3-percent increase over the previous year. Production among those producers for 2005 is forecast to increase to 1.68 million tons. Based on FAS attaché reports, China is the leading producer of fresh apricots, generally producing over 1 million tons annually. FAS forecasts

## Major Exporters of Fresh Apricots



Source: Global Trade Atlas

United States (\$4 million); and Mexico (\$3 million).

In 2004, U.S. exports of fresh apricots totaled \$7.8 million. Canada (at \$5.8 million) and Mexico (at \$1.7 million) were the predominant destinations in 2004. Combined, the two countries typically purchase around 95 percent of U.S. fresh apricot exports. Consumption of apricots in these countries is expected to rise slightly in 2005. Canada is expected to consume 5,745 tons in 2005. Mexico is also expected to increase consumption in the coming year. In 2004, however, consumption was low as phytosanitary issues with the United States reduced imported volume.

***Additional Information:***

For more in-depth country-specific analyses, see the latest FAS attaché reports covering stone fruits available from: Australia ([AS5006](#)); Canada ([CA5041](#)); Chile ([CI5005](#)); China ([CH5024](#)); Italy ([IT4015](#)); Japan ([JA5031](#)); Korea ([KS5004](#)); Mexico ([MX5030](#)); Poland ([PL5004](#)); Spain ([SP5011](#)); Taiwan ([TW5007](#)); and Turkey ([TU5013](#)). All these reports and more can be accessed from the FAS Attaché Reports search engine located at: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/scriptsw/AttacheRep/default.asp>.

The FAS also maintains an online database containing production, supply, and distribution data for major producers. It can be accessed at the following website: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/psd/>.

In addition, the FAS also maintains a Web site containing valuable information and links for stone fruit at: [http://www.fas.usda.gov/http/horticulture/stone\\_fruit.html](http://www.fas.usda.gov/http/horticulture/stone_fruit.html).

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